



SOUTH DAKOTA CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORTER

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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

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SOUTH DAKOTA: Producers in South Dakota intend to plant 50,000 more acres of corn and 100,000 more acres of spring wheat this year, while soybeans are intended to drop 150,000 acres from last year. Any planting changes due to weather or other factors will be accounted for when actual plantings are obtained in early June.

Corn plantings are expected to be 4.45 million acres, up 1 percent from 2003. Producers plan to plant 80 percent of these acres to biotechnology corn varieties. Producers intend to plant 32 percent of the acres to insect resistant (Bt) varieties, down from 34 percent last year. Herbicide resistant varieties are expected to be used on 28 percent of the acres, up from 24 percent in 2003, while stacked gene varieties will account for 20 percent of the acres, versus 17 percent a year earlier.

Soybean plantings are expected to total 4.10 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. Intentions are for seeding biotechnology soybean varieties on 96 percent of the acres, compared to 91 percent last year.

Sunflower acreage is expected to total 410,000 acres, down 19 percent from last year.

Sorghum planted acreage is expected to total 350,000 acres, up 30 percent from last year.

Winter wheat acres seeded last fall totaled 1.70 million acres, up 6 percent from a year earlier. **Other spring wheat** seeding intentions are at 1.50 million acres, up 7 percent from 2003.

Oats to be seeded, estimated at 400,000 acres, are down 5 percent from 2003.

UNITED STATES: **Corn** growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2004, up fractionally from both 2002 and 2003. **Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 75.4 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record and a rebound from the three year decline in acreage.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 59.5 million acres in 2004, down 4 percent from 2003. **Winter wheat** planted area for the 2004 crop is 43.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2003. The 2004 **other spring wheat** planted acreage is estimated at 13.3 million, down 4 percent from last year. Area planted to **durum wheat** is intended to total 2.76 million acres, down 5 percent from a year ago.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA & UNITED STATES, MARCH 2004

| Crop | South Dakota | | | | United States | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Planted (Actual) | | Intentions 2004 1/ | 2004 as % of 2003 | Planted (Actual) | | Intentions 2004 1/ | 2004 as % of 2003 |
| | 2002 | 2003 | | | 2002 | 2003 | | |
| | - - Thousand Acres - - | | | Percent | - - Thousand Acres - - | | | Percent |
| All corn | 4,450 | 4,400 | 4,450 | 101 | 78,894 | 78,736 | 79,004 | 100 |
| All sorghum | 220 | 270 | 350 | 130 | 9,589 | 9,420 | 8,600 | 91 |
| Oats | 470 | 420 | 400 | 95 | 4,995 | 4,601 | 4,312 | 94 |
| Barley | 80 | 75 | 70 | 93 | 5,008 | 5,299 | 4,683 | 88 |
| Soybeans | 4,250 | 4,250 | 4,100 | 96 | 73,963 | 73,404 | 75,411 | 103 |
| Wheat, All | 3,030 | 3,028 | 3,220 | 106 | 60,318 | 61,700 | 59,462 | 96 |
| Winter | 1,300 | 1,600 | 1,700 | 106 | 41,766 | 44,945 | 43,372 | 97 |
| Durum | 30 | 28 | 20 | 71 | 2,913 | 2,915 | 2,757 | 95 |
| Other spring | 1,700 | 1,400 | 1,500 | 107 | 15,639 | 13,840 | 13,333 | 96 |
| All sunflower | 640 | 505 | 410 | 81 | 2,581 | 2,344 | 2,086 | 89 |
| All hay 2/ | 3,850 | 4,300 | 4,400 | 102 | 63,942 | 63,342 | 63,731 | 101 |
| Dry edible beans | 21.0 | 8.0 | 7.0 | 88 | 1,929.7 | 1,406.1 | 1,333.0 | 95 |

1/ Intended plantings as indicated by reports from farmers. 2/ Intended harvested acreage as indicated by reports from farmers.

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HOGS & PIGS

SOUTH DAKOTA: The state's March 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs was 1.24 million head, down 5 percent from one year ago and 3 percent below last quarter.

Breeding stock totaled 145,000 head, the same as March 2003. **Market hogs** totaled 1,095,000 head, down 5 percent from last year.

The December through February **pig crop** was 644,000 head, up 11 percent from 579,000 head last year. During the quarter 70,000 sows farrowed, up 9 percent from 2003. Pigs per litter averaged 9.20, up 2 percent from the previous year. Producers intend to farrow 72,000 sows during March through May, 6 percent above the actual farrowings a year ago. Intentions for June through August are 70,000 sows, the same as the actual farrowings a year earlier.

UNITED STATES: U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2004, was 59.3 million head. This was 2 percent above March 1, 2003, but 2 percent below December 1, 2003.

Breeding inventory, at 5.92 million head, was down 2 percent from March 1, 2003, and down 1 percent from last quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 53.4 million head, was 2 percent above last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The December 2003 - February 2004 U.S. **pig crop**, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent more than 2003, and up slightly from 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.81 million head, 2 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 47 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.85 for the December 2003 - February 2004 period, compared to 8.81 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the March-May 2004 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003, and 3 percent below 2002. Intended farrowings for June-August 2004, at 2.85 million sows, are 2 percent below the same period in 2003 and 1 percent below 2002.

HOGS & PIGS: MARCH 1 INVENTORY NUMBER, SOWS FARROWING, AND PIG CROP, SOUTH DAKOTA & UNITED STATES, 2003 - 2004

| Item | South Dakota | | | United States | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 as % of 2003 | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 as % of 2003 |
| | - - Thousand Head - - | | Percent | - - Thousand Head - - | | Percent |
| MARCH 1 INVENTORY: | | | | | | |
| All Hogs and Pigs | 1,300 | 1,240 | 95 | 58,183 | 59,315 | 102 |
| Kept for Breeding | 145 | 145 | 100 | 6,017 | 5,915 | 98 |
| Market | 1,155 | 1,095 | 95 | 52,166 | 53,399 | 102 |
| MARKET HOGS & PIGS BY WEIGHT GROUP: | | | | | | |
| Under 60 pounds | 380 | 375 | 99 | 19,086 | 19,679 | 103 |
| 60-119 pounds | 295 | 245 | 83 | 12,649 | 12,993 | 103 |
| 120-179 pounds | 270 | 265 | 98 | 10,915 | 11,088 | 102 |
| 180 pounds and over | 210 | 210 | 100 | 9,516 | 9,641 | 101 |
| SOWS FARROWING: | | | | | | |
| December 1/-February | 64 | 70 | 109 | 2,769 | 2,814 | 102 |
| March-May | 68 | 72 2/ | 106 | 2,885 | 2,852 2/ | 99 |
| December 1/-May | 132 | 142 3/ | 108 | 5,655 | 5,666 3/ | 100 |
| June-August | 70 | 70 2/ | 100 | 2,906 | 2,851 2/ | 98 |
| September-November | 70 | NA | -- | 2,841 | NA | -- |
| June-November | 140 | NA | -- | 5,746 | NA | -- |
| PIG CROP: | | | | | | |
| December 1/-February | 579 | 644 | 111 | 24,399 | 24,895 | 102 |
| March-May | 619 | NA | -- | 25,627 | NA | -- |
| December 1/-May | 1,198 | NA | -- | 50,027 | NA | -- |
| June-August | 651 | NA | -- | 25,869 | NA | -- |
| September-November | 637 | NA | -- | 25,359 | NA | -- |
| June-November | 1,288 | NA | -- | 51,227 | NA | -- |

1/ December preceding year. 2/ Intentions. 3/ Actual farrowings for December 2003-February 2004 plus intentions for March-May
NA = Not available.

PRICES

UNITED STATES PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March at 122, based on 1990-92=100, is 6 points (5.2 percent) above the February Index. This is the highest index level since records began in 1910. The Livestock Products Index increased 8 points (7.1 percent) from February while the All Crops Index increased 4 points (3.3 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, soybeans, milk, and eggs. Lower prices were received for lettuce, strawberries, broccoli, and asparagus. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of strawberries, asparagus, milk, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, cotton, corn, and onions. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 23 points (23 percent) from March 2003.

The Food Commodities Index increased 7 points (6.0 percent) from last month to 123. The index stands 27 points (28 percent) above March 2003.

TRENDS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE

| Index | United States | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Mar. 2003 | Feb. 2004 | Mar. 2004 |
| Prices Received Indexes | (1990-92=100%) | | |
| All farm products | % 99 | 116* | 122 |
| All crops | % 106 | 120* | 124 |
| Food grains | % 102 | 122* | 121 |
| Feed grains & hay | % 106 | 113* | 119 |
| Oil bearing crops | % 101 | 147* | 169 |
| All livestock & products | % 93 | 112* | 120 |
| Meat animals | % 93 | 104 | 111 |
| Dairy products | % 84 | 104* | 113 |
| Poultry & eggs | % 103 | 139 | 147 |
| Prices Paid Index | % 128 | 130 | 131 |
| Ratio 1/ | % 77 | 89* | 93 |
| Crop Sector | % 132 | 133* | 133 |
| Livestock Sector | % 124 | 128* | 129 |

*Revised. 1/ (Received Index/Paid Index)

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR COMMODITIES SOLD

| Commodity and Unit | | South Dakota | | | United States | | | |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| | | Mar. 2003 | Feb. 2004 | Mar. 2004 | Mar. 2003 | Feb. 2004 | Mar. 2004 | Parity Price Mar. |
| | | 1/ | 1/ | 2/ | 1/ | 1/ | 2/ | Mar. |
| Dollars | | | | | | | | |
| All Wheat | Bu. | 3.60 | 3.83 | 3.78 | 3.55 | 3.77 | 3.71 | 9.84 |
| Winter | Bu. | 3.49 | 3.65 | 3.63 | 3.30 | 3.68 | 3.61 | -- |
| Durum | Bu. 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 4.14 | 4.08 | 4.15 | -- |
| Other spring | Bu. | 3.71 | 3.88 | 3.83 | 3.72 | 3.83 | 3.81 | -- |
| Corn | Bu. | 2.19 | 2.51 | 2.72 | 2.33 | 2.61 | 2.79 | 6.61 |
| Oats | Bu. | 2.13 | 1.53 | 1.56 | 2.08 | 1.58 | 1.55 | 3.85 |
| Soybeans | Bu. | 5.48 | 8.08 | 9.23 | 5.59 | 8.28 | 9.56 | 15.60 |
| All Barley | Bu. 5/ | 5/ | 2.26 | 2.28 | 2.83 | 2.72 | 2.71 | 6.56 |
| Feed | Bu. 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 2.30 | 2.16 | 2.14 | -- |
| Malt | Bu. 5/ | 5/ | 2.26 | 2.28 | 3.07 | 2.95 | 2.97 | -- |
| Sunflower | Cwt. | 12.30 | 12.00 | 12.20 | 12.50 | 12.80 | 12.90 | -- |
| Flaxseed | Bu. 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 6.47 | 6.40 | 6.50 | 12.70 |
| Sorghum | Cwt. 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 3.94 | 4.76 | 4.86 | 10.70 |
| All Hay | Ton | 81.00 | 61.00 | 61.00 | 92.80 | 79.90 | 81.80 | -- |
| Alfalfa | Ton | 84.00 | 64.00 | 64.00 | 96.70 | 84.70 | 85.90 | -- |
| Other | Ton | 60.00 | 48.00 | 48.00 | 77.90 | 69.90 | 70.90 | -- |
| Milk, wholesale | Cwt. 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 11.00 | 13.60 | 14.70 | 34.40 |
| Eggs, market | Doz. 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 0.518 | 0.745 | 1.000 | 1.66 |
| Cattle 4/ | Cwt. | 71.71 | 80.00 | 84.60 | 72.60 | 78.50 | 84.00 | 167.00 |
| Steers & heifers | Cwt. | 75.20 | 86.60 | 88.50 | 76.70 | 82.30 | 88.60 | -- |
| Cows | Cwt. | 40.20 | 47.50 | 49.00 | 39.50 | 46.10 | 46.70 | -- |
| Calves | Cwt. | 97.10 | 111.00 | 117.00 | 96.70 | 111.00 | 114.00 | 223.00 |
| All hogs | Cwt. | 35.80 | 44.20 | 46.90 | 34.70 | 42.60 | 45.10 | 103.00 |
| Barrows & gilts | Cwt. | 37.20 | 46.20 | 48.00 | 35.20 | 43.00 | 45.40 | -- |
| Sows | Cwt. | 23.50 | 31.10 | 37.00 | 24.20 | 35.10 | 38.90 | -- |
| Sheep | Cwt. | 40.90 | 44.00 | 5/ | 40.90 | 41.20 | 5/ | 82.00 |
| Lambs | Cwt. | 104.00 | 117.00 | 5/ | 97.10 | 107.00 | 5/ | 197.00 |

1/ Full month except hay which is mid-month. 2/ Mid-month. 3/ Annual average price only. 4/ "Cows" and "Steers & Heifers" combined. 5/ No price available.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT CROP REPORTER:

April Cattle on Feed
January-March Milk Production
Corn Production
March Slaughter & Cold Storage

GRAIN STOCKS

SOUTH DAKOTA: March 1 **corn** stocks totaled 216.7 million bushels, up 7 percent from last year. On-farm grain stocks accounted for 155.0 million bushels, up 5 million bushels from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 61.7 million bushels, were up 17 percent from last March.

Soybean stocks totaled 33.5 million bushels, down 33 percent from last year. On-farm stocks represented 17.0 million bushels, down 51 percent from last March, while off-farm stocks, at 16.5 million bushels, were up 8 percent from a year ago.

All wheat stocks, at 51.1 million bushels, were up 59 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks totaled 26.0 million, compared to 18.0 million last year. Off-farm stocks, at 25.1 million bushels, were up 78 percent from last March.

Oat stocks, at 8.6 million bushels, were up 142 percent from last year. **Barley** on-farm stocks totaled 700,000 bushels, up 46 percent from the previous year. No off-farm estimates are published.

UNITED STATES: **Corn** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2004 totaled 5.27 billion bushels, up 3 percent from March 1, 2003. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2004, totaled 1.02 billion bushels, up 12 percent from a year ago. **Soybeans** stored in all positions on March 1, 2004, totaled 906 million bushels, down 25 percent from March 1, 2003. This is the lowest March 1 stocks level since 1989. **Barley** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2004, totaled 151 million bushels, up 23 percent from March 1, 2003. **Oats** stored in all positions on March 1, 2004, totaled 95.1 million bushels, 15 percent above the stocks on March 1, 2003.

STOCKS OF GRAIN, SOUTH DAKOTA & UNITED STATES, MARCH 1, 2003 & 2004

| Crop | On Farm | | | Off Farm | | | All Positions | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 as % of All Positions | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 as % of All Positions | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 as % of 2003 |
| | - Thousand Bushels - | | Percent | - Thousand Bushels - | | Percent | - Thousand Bushels - | | Percent |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | | | | | | | | | |
| Corn | 150,000 | 155,000 | 72 | 52,814 | 61,672 | 28 | 202,814 | 216,672 | 107 |
| Barley | 480 | 700 | -- | 1/ | 1/ | -- | 1/ | 1/ | -- |
| Sorghum | 1/ | 1/ | -- | 548 | 493 | -- | 1/ | 1/ | -- |
| Soybeans | 35,000 | 17,000 | 51 | 15,282 | 16,506 | 49 | 50,282 | 33,506 | 67 |
| All Wheat | 18,000 | 26,000 | 51 | 14,051 | 25,073 | 49 | 32,051 | 51,073 | 159 |
| Oats | 2,800 | 7,400 | 86 | 770 | 1,230 | 14 | 3,570 | 8,630 | 242 |
| UNITED STATES | | | | | | | | | |
| Corn | 2,940,000 | 3,030,000 | 57 | 2,191,873 | 2,240,641 | 43 | 5,131,873 | 5,270,641 | 103 |
| Barley | 36,730 | 51,700 | 34 | 86,710 | 99,784 | 66 | 123,440 | 151,484 | 123 |
| Sorghum | 27,500 | 21,000 | 13 | 135,423 | 137,652 | 87 | 162,923 | 158,652 | 97 |
| Soybeans | 636,500 | 355,900 | 39 | 565,528 | 549,623 | 61 | 1,202,028 | 905,523 | 75 |
| All Wheat | 236,300 | 257,890 | 25 | 670,333 | 761,141 | 75 | 906,633 | 1,019,031 | 112 |
| Oats | 35,000 | 45,600 | 48 | 47,879 | 49,469 | 52 | 82,879 | 95,069 | 115 |

1/ Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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|--|
| Carter Anderson, State Statistician Stephen W. Noyes, Deputy State Statistician |
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